

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 /031 W

-----001109 231002Z /11

R 230812Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6156

FAA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TAHENS

FAA BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 7812

ROME FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAID, EAIR, SIPN, SY

SUBJ: VISIT OF FAA TEAM TO DAMASCUS

1. FAA TEAM, HEADED BY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AVIATION
SAFTY MARION ROSCOE AND INCLUDING CHARLES HORNE, OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL AVIATION (TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE STAFF), DAVID
SWITZER, FAA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE/ROME, AND JOSEPH
PONTECROVO, CHIEF, FLIGHT STANDARDS STAFF/FAA/BRUSSELS,
PAID BRIEF BUT BUSY AND USEFUL VISIT TO DAMASCUS DECEMBER
5-6

2. VISIT BEGAN WITH BRIEFING ON OPERATIONS, FUNCTION AND
RESPONSIBILITY OF FAA TO SENIOR OFFICIALS OF
DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVAIIATION (DGCA) AND SYRIAN ARAB
AIRLINES AT USIS CULTURAL CENTER. FAA TEAM ALSO SHOWED
FILM AND MADE ORAL PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED MICROWAVE
LANDING SYSTEM (MLS) NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY ICAO AS
FOLLOW-ON TO PRESENT INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEMS. DGCA
REP RESPONDED BY DESCRIBING WORK AND PROGRAM OF DGCA AND
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REMAINDER OF SESSION SPENT IN GENERAL DISCUSSION AND ARRANGING
FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITIES. (HAPPY SPIN-OFF OF FAA PRESENTATION
WAS OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE HALF A DOZEN SENIOR SYRIAN
OFFICIALS--INCLUDING ONE AIR FORCE GENERAL NOW SECONDED
TO SYRIAN ARAB AIRLINES (SAA)--TH NEWLY-OPENED CULTURAL
CENTER AND LIBRARY.) USIS, AS A RESULT OF THIS MEETING,
NOW PLANNING TO ESTABLISH AVIATION SECTION IN LIBRARY FOR

USE DGCA AND SAA, AND TO ASSIST SYRIAN GOVT AGENCIES IN OBTAINING NECESSARY U.S. PUBLICATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN FIELD OF AVIATION SAFETY.

3. MEETINGS CONTINUED BOTH AT OFFICES OF DGCA AND SAA AS WELL AS LUNCHEONS OFFERED BY ECONOFF (DEC 5) AND MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (DEC 6). DGCA CONCERNED AT NEED TO RATIONALIZE BOTH THEIR OWN PROGRAM AND GET MAXIMUM BENEFIT FROM TRAINING AND ANY OTHER USG ASSISTANCE. DGCA IN PARTICULAR EXPRESSED DESIRE TIGHTEN UP U.S. TRAINING PROGRAMS. SEPTTEL SENT RE THIS MATTER (DAMASCUS 7670). DGCA AND FAA TEAM ALSO DISCUSSED POSSIBILITIES OF FAA PROVIDING TECHNICAL SURVEY TEAM FOR CIVIL AVIATION SECTOR ALONG LINES SIMILAR SURVEY DONE RECENTLY IN JORDON. FAA UNDERTOOD TO PROVIDE INFO ON TERMS OF STUDY AND COSTS AND DGCA MAY THEN SEEK PLANNING MINISTRY APPROVAL TO FORWARD TO USAID FOR CONSIDERATION FOR FINANCING OF SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL SERVICES.

4. TALKS AT SAA WERE HELD JOINTLY WITH DGCA. EMPHASIS IN TALKS ON CONTINUING NEED RATIONALIZE AND ORGANIZE AVIATION SAFETY FUNCTION IN SYRIA PRESENTLY SPLIT BETWEEN AIRLINE AND GDCA. FAA NOTED THAT PRESENT METHOD SENDING FAA SAFETY PUBLICATIONS TO WASHINGTON EMBASSIES OF COUNTRIES HOLDING U.S. AIRCRAFT IS NOT WORKING IN SYRIA. IN LAST YEAR, DGCA HAS RECEIVED NO SUCH PUBLICATIONS
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FROM SYRIAN EMBASSY/WASHINGTON, WHILE SAA RECEIVED PUBLICATIONS THROUGH BOEING ON BOEING AIRCRAFT ONLY. FAA REPS UNDERTOOD TO LOOK INTO ALTERNATE METHODS OF PROVIDING INFO.

5. TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH FAA TEAM VISIT WAS VISIT OF PAN AM AIRLINES SERVICES DIRECTOR JOSEPH GATT TO DAMASCUS. GATT MADE PRESENTATION TO MINTRANSPORT AND SAA FOR COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF AIRLINE COVERING TECHNICAL, FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS AND HAS AGREED PAN AM WILL MAKE STUDY FOR FREE. SAA HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE. PAN AM BELIEVES THIS WILL GIVE IT HEAD START IN COMPETING FOR TECHNICAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH SAA WHICH INTENDS TO TERMINATE ITS PRESENT CONTRACT WITH LUFTHANSA.

6. POST BELIEVES THIS HAS BEEN A VALUABLE VISIT. NOT LEAST OF ITS ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAS BEEN TO BRING ABOUT INCREASED COOPERATION BETWEEN SAA AND DGCA IN PLANNING. FAA TEAM MADE IT CLEAR TO ALL THAT CIVIL AVIATION SECTOR INCLUDES BOTH AND THAT DIVISION OF FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE CLEAR AND UNEQUIVOCAL PARTICULARLY IN SUCH MATTERS AS AVIATION SAFETY. FAA TECHNICAL SURVEY

UNDER DISCUSSION SHOULD ALSO GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS
HELPING ESTABLISH ROLE FOR DGCA WITH BOTH DEVELOPMENTAL
AND COMMERCIAL PAYOFFS. PAUCITY OF GOOD AIRPOSRS AND
NAVIGATION FACILITIES, ALL RESPONSIBILITY OF DGCA,
CONTRIBUTES TO POOR DOMESTIC TRANSPORT AND ECONOMIC
INEFFICIENCIES. ON OTHER HAND, EXPANDED ROLE FOR FAA
SHOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS ENCOURAGING SYRIAN INCLUSION
OF U. S. NAVIGATIONAL AND GROUND EQUIPMENT IN FUTURE
PLANNING.

MURPHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770479-0612
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ISecure: 1
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 141089
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF FAA TEAM TO DAMASCUS
TAGS: EAID, EAIR, SOPN, OTRA, SY, FAA
To: STATE FAA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/35c6cafd-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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